

**MINUTES OF WHITCHURCH VILLAGE COUNCIL ORDINARY PARISH MEETING
HELD IN THE WVCA HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1st MAY 2024**

It was agreed that Mark Dury (Vice Chairman) will Chair the meeting as the Chairman was not in attendance.

Present: Cllrs M Dury (Chair), S Bangham, R Chandler, P O'Leary, P Orchard, V Perry, S Dyer (Clerk) & District Councillor Paul May.

2024/01 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents have reported cars being stolen and broken into in the Village. This has been reported to the Police by the Village Council, Paul May will follow this up further.

The car which has been parked on the pavement in Staunton Lane, now has no Tax or MOT so will be reported to B&NES again.

Mark Dury reminded Councillors that tickets are now on sale for the Abba Tribute Band being held at Whitchurch Cricket Club on Friday 7th June.

2024/02 RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk gave apologies for Councillors A Currie, J Fox-Bowen, N Kirk & C Lewis who are unable to attend due to family & work commitments, these apologies and the reasons for non- attendance were accepted by all present.

**2024/03 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS UNDER WHITCHURCH
VILLAGE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT (ADOPTED ON 7th NOVEMBER 2012)**

No declarations received.

**2024/04 TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS
(FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)**

None received.

**2024/05 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY VILLAGE COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON 3rd APRIL 2024**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2024, previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting, by M Dury – Chair.

**2024/06 TO NOTE THE RESIGNATION OF A COUNCILLOR AND AGREE THE WAY
FORWARD**

Sharon Bryant has advised the Council that she is stepping down from being a Councillor due to a change in personal circumstances. The Councillors would like to thank Sharon for her valuable input since being a Councillor, she will be missed.

It was resolved that the Clerk will advertise the vacancy in the normal way and it will be added to the newsletter.

**2024/07 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES ON THE EVENTS TAKING PLACE ON
THURSDAY 6th JUNE AND AGREE FURTHER ACTIONS**

The Event Management Plan has been completed together with the risk assessments and forwarded to B&NES. The Fire Service will be advised on the beacon lighting. The gas bottle needs to be refilled for the beacon and a trial run needs to take place to ensure it works in the next couple of weeks.

2024/08 TO AGREE ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN A NEWSLETTER

A draft newsletter has been drawn up which includes details on the D-Day 80th Anniversary commemorations, an item on Whitchurch History Society, allotments available & important dates. It was resolved that this was in order and to add the Councillor vacancy and comments from the Chairman. This will need to go to the printers the week commencing 13th May, it was agreed to have the leaflets printed in A4 size.

2024/09 TO REVIEW THE ACTION PLAN

The Village Council's Action Plan was reviewed, it was agreed to make changes to bring the plan up to date by updating the precept, number of properties and specific actions for this year.

2024/10 PLANNING & TRAFFIC

a) To note the current Planning Application list.

The current Planning application listed in Appendix A, previously circulated to all Councillors, and was noted.

b) 24/01046/HPD - Mr Churches, 16 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0PQ Prior approval request for single storey rear extension

It was resolved to support this application for a single storey extension to the property which is within the Housing Development boundary.

c) To receive updates on the two Speed Indicator Devices to be installed in Staunton Lane.

A meeting was held with David Boardman, Senior Engineer, Road Safety Team, B&NES, the Clerk & Councillors. He advised the best place to install the signs and answered questions on how they work and was extremely helpful. A revised quote has been received for signs which can convey multiply messages which he recommended. It was resolved to send the revised quote to David before placing an order to confirm they are compatible to be connected to B&NES Council's CMS.

2024/11 CLERKS REPORT

During the past month the Clerk has reported the following issues to B&NES Council:- Potholes and the general road surface along Staunton/Stockwood Lane. The potholes now have white markings around them, so hopefully will be filled in soon.

Faded double yellow lines along Sleep Lane, these have already been repainted.

The bollard which was knocked over in Church Road, this was reinstalled the next day.

An email has been sent to the Barbarians as the waste bin outside their ground was overflowing with black bags, which had been broken and rubbish was spilling all over the road today.

Thank you to the Councillors who attended the Village Clean Up on Saturday 20th April which was a successful event once again. Representatives from 107th Bristol (Whitchurch) Scout group joined in and around 12 bags of rubbish were collected.

Refreshments were served afterwards. Thank you to resident Ann Leach who supplied the delicious cake.

The Clerk met with Paul Pearce B&NES Council this week to obtain some advice on the wild flower areas in Sleep Lane, which have not been a great success. He has given a couple of options which should help.

2024/12 ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR PAUL MAY BANES

Paul gave updates on the Resourceful Earth site. B&NES have taken the next step in securing funding for the Somer Valley travel scheme, further community consultation will take place on this.

Paul congratulated the Village Council on their response to the Local Plan consultation. 381 written consultation submissions were sent in from Whitchurch Village & Paul received 90 responses to his survey, which he was pleased with.

Paul reported that from 1st April 2024 Adult Social Care is now in house.

B&NES have sent in a business case for six projects to WECA which includes funding for the A37 crossing.

Paul is on the board of Avon Fire Authority looking into how they can improve as they are in special measures at the present time.

The Chairman thanked Paul for his updates and Paul May left the meeting at 8.50pm.

2024/13 FIELD, CEMETERY & COMMUNITY GARDENS (ALLOTMENTS)

a) To Grant Exclusive Rights of Burial

Donald Robert Cooper

Plot No. J27

Deed No. 1496

Ref: (Lily Margaret Elizabeth Cooper)

R Chandler proposed, P Orchard seconded and the meeting duly passed the Exclusive Rights of Burial.

b) To receive an update on the allotment site

The Clerk gave an update on the allotment site, there are 4 new allotment holders this year and 2 plots still free. The new pathways are looking good, the new composting area needs to be completed.

Bristol Water have advised that the water usage for the site for the last 6 months is abnormally high, with a bill of £246.56. They gave instructions on what to check which our maintenance contractor has completed and there was a leak, which has now fixed.

c) To consider a request to raise a cremation stone at Whitchurch Cemetery

The Clerk read a letter out from a cremation plot owner asking if they could raise their parents cremation plaque to help prevent it being covered in water when the area floods. He says the gilding needs replacing but is reluctant to do this without trying to prevent the stone from being covered in water.

After a discussion regarding this it was agreed to obtain a quote for a slab and installation costs by our contractor. When this is received advise the gentleman of the cost involved.

2024/14 FINANCE

a) To note and agree the payment of accounts dated 1st May 2024

The schedule of payments dated 1st May 2024 as listed in Appendix B, which have previously been circulated to all Councillors, were agreed and will be authorised online by Cllrs S Bangham & P Orchard.

b) To consider whether the Bowls Club should repay some of the grant given to them

A sum of £5,000.00 was granted to Whitchurch Village Short Mat Bowls Club towards the purchase of an electric bowls mat winding machine. The Treasurer of the club has advised that they managed to obtain a discount on the original price and saved £656.00. They want to know if the Village Council would like this amount refunded to them.

After consideration and a vote it was resolved to ask for the funds to be returned, as the amount can then be put towards other projects in the village.

The meeting ended at 9.08.p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th June 2024

Appendix A

PLANNING APPLICATION LIST – 1st MAY 2024 APPLICATIONS

15/03/2023 23/00782/FUL	RCIH Developments 18 Churchways, Whitchurch, BS14 0PL Proposed attached self-contained dwelling house OBJECT - The increased use of the cul-de-sac turning head together with the generation of conflicting traffic movements, resulting from the proposed development, would be prejudicial to highway safety. Contrary to Policy T.24 of the BANES Local Plan.
16/08/2023 23/02922/OUT	Mr & Mrs Andrews Oaklea, Sleep Lane, BS14 0QN Erection of 9 Residential Dwellings (Use Class C3) with All Matters Reserved Except for Access
07/02/2024 28/03/2024	REFUSED APPEAL REF: 23/02922/OUT
13/12/2023 23/04552/FUL	Creo Properties Ltd Central Garage, 93 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0PS Erection of two three bedroom houses with associated car parking following demolition of existing single storey car repair workshop OBJECT – for the following reasons:- The demolition of the existing car repair workshop would be a loss of employment and business in Whitchurch Village and would be in detriment to Policy WV 1.5 – Retain employment in the village, of the Whitchurch Village Neighbourhood Plan. Many residents previously used the garage for their car repairs and MOT's and there has been no visible attempt to market the site as a business, therefore it will be another loss of an essential service & amenity to the community. Vehicles using the parking spaces will reverse out of the site across the pavement onto the A37 road due to the lack of turning space, this would have a detrimental impact on road safety in this location. Policy No's WV4.2 – Traffic Impacts of Developments & WV4.3 Traffic & Safety. It would be an overdevelopment of the site, the design of the proposed properties is out character of other properties in this area, as the plans are three storeys high with balconies at the windows. They would also have a negative impact on the listed building, Yew Tree cottage, which is situated at the rear of the site. There is no need for more residential accommodation in this location.
02/02/2024 23/02591/FUL	Mr Hoy, Besley Hill Estate Agents, 91 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, Part demolition and construction of 4no. 1 bed flats in detached two storey block with associated access. SUPPORT After a conscious decision feel the proposal, by way of appearance and siting, would have a positive effect on the appearance of the area.

19/02/2024
24/00620/FUL

Mr Hunt, Greenacre, Staunton Lane, Whitchurch, BS14 0QL
Erection of a detached two storey 5 bedroom dwelling with double garage.

OBJECT for the following reasons:-

The proposed development is an inappropriate development within the Green Belt. No special circumstances are demonstrated to outweigh this and it is therefore contrary to Policy GB2 Development in Green Belt Villages & Core Policy CP8.

Land in Whitchurch Village has already been removed from the Green Belt in exceptional circumstances to meet Policy RA5 strategic site for development. There is therefore no need for further development on Green Belt land within Whitchurch Village. The proposed development is outside the Housing Development Boundary and is therefore contrary to Policy RA1 of the Bath & North East Somerset Council Core Strategy & Policy WV 2.1 of the Neighbourhood Plan as it would increase the density of development within existing curtilages.

Further development is not suitable in this location due to the poor state of the unadopted access road to the site.

04/03/2024
24/00715/FUL

Mr M Trought, Strathmore, Staunton Lane, Whitchurch, BS14 0QL
Technical details consent application following approval of PIP (23/01535/PIP) for the erection of a single dwelling.

OBJECT for the following reasons:-

The proposed development is an inappropriate development within the Green Belt. No special circumstances are demonstrated to outweigh this and it is therefore contrary to Policy GB2 Development in Green Belt Villages & Core Policy CP8.

Somerset Council Core Strategy & Policy WV 2.1 of the Neighbourhood Plan as it would increase the density of development within existing curtilages.

Further development is not suitable in this location due to the poor state of the unadopted access road to the site.

21/03/2024
24/01047/FUL

Mr Churches
16 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0PQ

Alterations to front garden to allow for 1no new car parking space including demolition of existing front garden walls.

SUPPORT - this application subject to the revised plans being submitted which meet the comments made by B&NES Highways department.

05/04/2024
24/01046/HPD

Mr Churches
16 Bristol Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0PQ

Prior approval request for single storey rear extension that would 1) extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 4 metres, 2) have a maximum height of 3 metres and 3) have eaves that are 3 metres high.

Appendix B

MONTHLY PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

DATE: 1st MAY 2024

D/D	British Telecom	Phone/broadband	58.87	9.81
D/D	SSE	Electricity Clock	73.37	3.49
D/D	Water Business	Water – Allotment site	246.56	
D/D	Water Business	Water – Cemetery	40.06	
DR	Lloyds Bank	Credit card April	164.95	
BT	Various	Salaries & sundry items	2,059.14	
BT	WVCA	Rent & meetings April	198.00	
BT	Your Solution	Maintenance	2,239.00	
BT	B&NES Council	Pension Fund	534.65	
BT	H M Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NIC April	383.15	
BT	Apollo	PAT Testing	66.00	11.00
BT	M Dury	Travel expenses	9.00	
BT	ICCM	Membership	100.00	
BT	Bijo Thomas	Allotment key refund	10.00	
BT	T R Haynes	Allotment key refund	10.00	
BT	Kn Office	Stationery	82.75	13.79
		Total Payments	£6,275.50	£38.09